

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Device for the inspection of products, whereby this device (1) comprises means to convey these products (2) over a track (4) in the shape of a product flow (5) extending in the width, characterised in that it comprises at least one scanner (9-10) to inspect the products (2), whereby this scanner (9-10) is situated on one side of the aforesaid track (4).

2. (Original) Device according to claim 1, characterised in that it comprises at least two scanners (9-10), situated on either side of the aforesaid track (4) respectively, and in that they scan the products (2) as of the lower side and/or rear side, in particular in a slanting direction.

3. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 1 ~~er-2~~, characterised in that the above-mentioned scanner or scanners (9-10) are situated, seen from above, entirely beside the aforesaid track (4).

4. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterised in that the scanner (9-10), scanners (9-10) respectively, are erected mainly according to vertical planes (V4-V5) with their longitudinal direction, along the sides of the aforesaid track (4).

5. (Original) Device according to claim 4, characterised in that it comprises bending mirrors (20) in order to realise a scanning in a plane which is diagonal to the aforesaid track (4), which are mainly erected in the aforesaid planes (V4-V5).

6. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterised in that it comprises one or several adjusting facilities, selected from the following series:

adjusting means in order to change the position and/or size of the angle (K1-K2) over which is being scanned;

adjusting means in the shape of control elements with which such a scanner (9-10) can be turned in the aforesaid vertical plane (V4-V5);

adjusting means in the shape of one or several bending mirrors (20) whose angle can be set.

7. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterised in that at least

one of the scanners (9-10) situated on one side of the aforesaid track (4) comprise one or several facilities to safeguard its good working order against negative influences, selected from the following series:

a screen (21) which protects the scanner (9-10) at least on its side directed towards the aforesaid track (4), and preferably also on the top side;

a mainly closed screen (21) which surrounds the scanner (9-10) and possible other elements, such as mirrors, and which is provided with a window (22) via which the scanner (9-10) can observe the products (2);

an entirely closed screen (21) which surrounds the scanner (9-10) and possible other elements, such as mirrors, and which is provided with a closed light and/or radiation-transmitting window (22) via which the scanner (9-10) can observe the products (2);

a cleaning device (26);

a cleaning device (26) which works in conjunction with a window (22) in a screen (21);

a cleaning device (26) in the shape of a wiper (28).

8. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, characterised in that the means for moving the products (2) along a track (4) consist of a conveyor belt (6), which is erected such that the products (2)

leave this conveyor belt (6) near its far end, and in that the above-mentioned scanner or scanners (9-10) operate in a plane (V3) immediately following this conveyor belt (6).

9. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterised in that it comprises at least one additional scanner (13) which inspects the products (2) as of the top side or front side.

10. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, characterised in that it comprises a unit (14) for sorting the inspected products (2), driven by means of a control unit (15) which is controlled by the above-mentioned scanner or scanners (9-10).

11. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of claims 7 to 10~~ claim 7, characterised in that the above-mentioned window forms an angle of 90° at the most, as of its side directed towards the product flow, with a horizontal plane extending as of the lower edge of the window.

12. (Original) Device according to claim 11, characterised in that said angle is bigger than 70°, in particular bigger than 80°, and smaller than or equal to 90°.

13. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of~~  
~~claims 11 or 12~~ claim 11, characterised in that the window  
extends almost vertically.

14. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of~~  
~~claims 7 to 13~~ claim 7, characterised in that means, such as a  
blowing device, are provided in order to create an air flow,  
in particular an air flow in the shape of a curtain, along the  
side of the window directed towards the product flow.

15. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of~~  
~~claims 7 to 14~~ claim 7, characterised in that the above-  
mentioned window is sealed by means of a light and/or  
radiation-transmitting material.

16. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of~~  
~~claims 1 to 15~~ claim 1, characterised in that an air flow is  
provided between the above-mentioned scanner and the above-  
mentioned product flow, in particular an air flow in the shape  
of a curtain, in order to safeguard the scanner against  
pollution.

17. (Original) Method for the inspection of  
products, whereby these products (2) are conveyed along a  
track (4) in the shape of a product flow (5) extending in the  
width and whereby these products (2) are scanned,

characterised in that at least one scanner (9-10) is applied which is situated on one side (11-12) of the aforesaid track (4).

18. (Original) Method according to claim 17, characterised in that at least two scanners (9-10) are used, which are situated on either side respectively of the aforesaid track (4).

19. (Original) Method according to claim 18, characterised in that the two scanners (9-10) operate according to any of the following possibilities:

that they each scan a part of the product flow (5),  
such that together they scan the entire product flow (5);  
that they both scan the entire product flow (5).

20. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 17, characterised in that the above-mentioned products (2) are scanned by means of the above-mentioned scanner or scanners (9-10) along the lower side and/or rear side, in particular slantingly at an angle.

21. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 17, characterised in that the products (2) are scanned by means of the above-mentioned

scanner or scanners (9-10) while performing a coasting flight motion.

22. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 17, characterised in that the above-mentioned products (2) are also scanned as of the top side and/or front side by means of at least one additional scanner (13).

23. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 17, characterised in that it is used for sorting the above-mentioned products (2), whereby, as a function of the data obtained by means of the scanning, an automatic selection is carried out.

24. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 17, characterised in that the products (2) are scanned as of at least three sides, according to main directions (R1-R2-R3) which are rotated at least 90° in relation to each other, and better still which are rotated about 120° in relation to each other.